

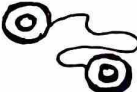







Steps for Throwing on the Pottery Wheel




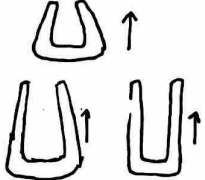

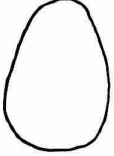

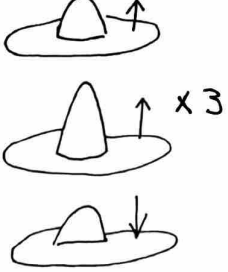
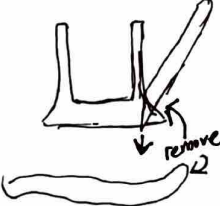
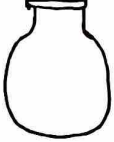

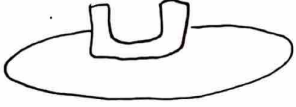
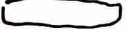

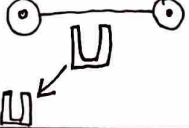
Guide for Right-Handed Folks - Wheel Spins Counter-Clockwise

By Amanda Barry Jones

Basic Tools:

Sponge	Needle Tool	Wire Cutter	Bowl of Water	Pot Scoops	Metal Rib	Right Angle Rib	Wooden knife
							

Steps Table (Organized by Speed of Pottery Wheel):

Wheel Speed: OFF	Wheel Speed: EXTREMELY SLOW Side of Wheel: Middle	Wheel Speed: FAST (Full Speed) Side of Wheel: Left	Wheel Speed: MEDIUM (Half) Side of Wheel: Right	Wheel Speed: SLOW (Quarter)
<p>Step 1: WEDGE Wedging: Wedge clay, beat into a square. turn lumps into squares</p>  <p>ON WEDGING TABLE</p>	<p>Step 3: DAMPEN Dampen wheel head with a sponge and dry.</p> 	<p>Step 6: CENTERING LEFT arm braced, Conform LEFT hand to clay push clay onto axis in 5 seconds.</p> 	<p>Step 10: PULLING Side of Wheel: Right Pull at 6 o'clock multiple times until walls thin.</p> 	<p>Step 12: SHAPING with RIGHT ANGLE RIB WHEEL SLOW Use rib on outside.</p> 
<p>Step 2: EGGS Make eggs by smacking corners.</p> 	<p>Step 4: THROW on TARGET Egg thrown on target.</p> 	<p>Step 7: CONING Cone up and down 3 times.</p> 	<p>Step 11: PRE-TRIMMING Using a wooden knife, cut off excess clay "the skirt" at an angle.</p> 	<p>OPTIONAL: SHAPING PULL WHEEL SLOW Push and pull with hands to shape.</p> 
	<p>Step 5: SMACK & SEAL Smack clay down in a cone shape using 1 or 2 hands. Seal clay with finger.</p> 	<p>Step 8: OPENING Side of Wheel: Middle</p> 		<p>OPTIONAL: CHAMOIS LIP/RIM Take a chamois and conform to rim to strengthen and round.</p> 
		<p>Step 9: COMPRESSING Side of Wheel: Middle</p> 		<p>Step 13: CUT AND SCOOP</p> 

WRITTEN STEPS AND PRO-TIPS for All the Steps

Wheel Speed: Off	Wheel Speed: SLOW Side of Wheel: Middle	Wheel Speed: FAST (Full Speed) Side of Wheel: Left	Wheel Speed: MEDIUM Side of Wheel: Right	Wheel Speed: SLOW
<p><u>Step 1: WEDGE</u> Wedging: Wedge clay on wedging table. Weigh out 2 lb balls if beginning. Make multiple. Wedge 30 times. Beat into a square.</p> <p>TIPS: Transport on a ware board or in a container in squares so they don't tip over. Smack into an egg at the wheel.</p>	<p><u>Step 3: DAMPEN</u> -Dampen wheel with a sponge and dry.</p> <p>TIPS: When dampening the wheel it can not be shiny. Dampen then dry the wheel head with a towel. This helps the clay stick to the wheel head.</p>	<p><u>Step 6: CENTERING</u> -True centering takes 5 seconds. -Brace into your leg or pelvis and stiffen your LEFT arm. This arm is your machine arm. -Rock your LEFT hand from the bottom up conforming the clay to your hand and pushing the clay on its axis. TIPS: -Push with your skeleton! -If needed push the clay down with the right hand and push the clay on axis with the left hand. -No chicken wing arms in the air! The wheel will fight you and the wheel will win.</p>	<p><u>Step 9: COMPRESSING (center of wheel)</u> -Use a right angle rib at a slight angle and push down on the base of the clay. -If your piece is large, put the right angle rib on one side and let the wheel spin to compress all around. TIPS: -Make sure to really have a good grip of your tool. -Use a small wooden tool if throwing mugs as the right angle rib might be too big.</p>	<p><u>Step 12: SHAPING with RIGHT ANGLE RIB</u> WHEEL SLOW Use rib on outside and supporting left hand on inside.</p>
<p><u>Step 2: EGGS</u> Make eggs by smacking corners.</p> <p>TIPS: Cup your hand and smack for the bottom of the egg. Flip the egg over and use a straight hand to smack the top of the egg.</p> <p>The bottom of the egg smushes and the top is a perfect cone conforming to your hand.</p>	<p><u>Step 4: THROW on TARGET</u> -Egg Thrown on Target.</p> <p>TIPS: Throw the egg perfectly on target. If you miss, wire cut off, smack into an egg, throw on target. If you throw an off centered egg you will not be able to center the middle of the egg as it's stuck to the wheel head off-center. The surrounding clay might be centered but when you go to open the clay the inside will not be centered.</p>	<p><u>Step 7: CONING x 3</u> Purpose: Wedging on the wheel, and aligning the particles, helps to center. STEPS: -Leave the left arm braced to the body in the position it was in. -Meet hand on other side, squeeze clay up, hands cross in front. -Thumb straight up. Your thumb line is your plumb line on the axis of the clay. -Keep rounded by pulling one hand up to curve top. Don't let it become a swimming pool. That creates an air pocket when pushing down. -Push clay back down. Left hand keeps on axis and keeps from mushrooming. Right hand pushed down. Keep right hand with a karate chop angle.</p>	<p><u>Step 10: PULLING</u> Side of Wheel: Right Speed: Half the speed of centering, coning, and opening. -Brace body on right side of the wheel, lean over. -Make an indentation: remove clay -Start pull in the indentation with right hand on outside with sponge. -Left hand on inside, slightly higher than the right. -Water inside and outside. Don't let too much water stand in bottom. -Pull up. Your first pull needs to come in and be right hand dominant. Pull multiple times to thin walls. -Bridge rim in between every pull to keep it nice and strong.</p>	<p><u>OPTIONAL: SHAPING PULL</u> WHEEL SLOW Push and pull with hands to shape</p> <p><u>OPTIONAL: CHAMOIS LIP/RIM</u> Take a chamois and conform to rim to strengthen and round.</p>
	<p><u>Step 5: SMACK & SEAL</u> Smack clay down in a cone shape using 1 or 2 hands. Seal clay with a finger.</p> <p>TIPS: Make the shape a pyramid that fits your hand. Seal the edge where there is no shadow and water can't seep under. Sometimes when sealing remove uneven clay with more than 2 or 3 fingers.</p>	<p><u>Step 8: OPENING</u> Side of Wheel: Middle Steps: -Use your thumb daggers and push down to make a little pool. -Fill the pool with water. -Push down but not too far. -Stop the wheel and measure the thickness of the base with your needle tool. No less than ½ inch. -Open more depending on the desired outcome. TIPS: - Don't pull too wide or everything you make will be a bowl. -Don't touch your piece when the wheel is not spinning!</p>	<p><u>Step 11: PRETRIMMING</u> Using a wooden knife, cut off excess clay "the skirt" at an angle.</p>	<p><u>Step 13: CUT AND SCOOP</u> -put water in front of the piece and use wire cutters to cut. -keep cutting until the piece slides off the "cookie" -Use scoops to pick up. -Transport to ware board.</p>